



United States Attorney's Office
District of Columbia

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Monday, May 10, 2010

USAO Public Affairs
(202) 514-6893
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Former District of Columbia employee pleads guilty to false statement regarding D.C. residency

WASHINGTON - A 30-year-old former employee of the District of Columbia's Office of the Inspector General, Anurak Duangphut, has pled guilty to a False Statement charge for having stated she was a D.C. resident when applying for her job with the D.C. Government, U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr. and District of Columbia Inspector General Charles Willoughby announced today.

Duangphut, currently residing in the 13000 block of Stoner Drive, Silver Spring, MD, entered her guilty plea today before U.S. Magistrate Judge Alan Kay in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. When Duangphut is sentenced on July 30, 2010, she faces up to 180 days of imprisonment and a fine of up to \$1000. As part of her plea agreement, Duangphut agreed to make restitution in the amount of \$3,403.44, which was money paid to Duangphut after she had been placed on administrative leave in January 2010. Duangphut was terminated from her employment with the District as a result of the conduct which gave rise to this case, effective March 29, 2010.

According to the government's evidence, in an application filed December 13, 2007, for a position as a Staff Assistant with the D.C. Office of the Inspector General, Duangphut stated she was a D.C. resident, signed a Residency Preference Form claiming a residency preference, and provided a D.C. address, despite the fact that she resided in Maryland. In support of her false representation, she signed a fabricated lease. In the hiring process, Duangphut was given residency preference. Under District of Columbia Personnel Regulations, if Duangphut had not had residency preference, any qualified applicant with residency preference (and there were several) would have to have been hired ahead of her. Instead, Duangphut was hired, effective March 17, 2008. Later, in January 2009, Duangphut notified the District of Columbia that she had moved to a different address in the District, another falsehood since she still resided in Maryland. Duangphut's false statement was discovered in November 2009, and the investigation moved quickly from that point.

In announcing today's guilty plea, U.S. Attorney Machen and Inspector General Willoughby praised the work of the investigative agents from the D.C. Office of the Inspector

Page -2-

General involved in this matter. They also commended Legal Assistants Jamasee Lucas and Sierra Tate, as well as Assistant U.S. Attorney Daniel Friedman, who is handling this prosecution.

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10-93